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United Nations Forum on Forests
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Item 2 of the provisional agenda
Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

Provisional agenda

1. Election of officers.
2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters.
3. Implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and the plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests:
   (a) Means of implementation: finance, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building for sustainable forest management;
   (b) Progress in implementation:
      (i) Combating deforestation and forest degradation;
      (ii) Forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems;
      (iii) Rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover;
      (iv) Rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands and the promotion of natural and planted forests;
      (v) Concepts, terminology and definitions.
4. Common items for each session:
   (a) Multi-stakeholder dialogue;
   (b) Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination;
   (c) Country experience and lessons;
   (d) Emerging issues relevant to country implementation;
   (e) Intersessional work;

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(f) Monitoring, assessment and reporting;

(g) Promoting public participation;

(h) National forest programmes;

(i) Trade;

(j) Enabling environment.

5. High-level ministerial segment.

6. Ministerial dialogue with heads of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests.

7. Date and venue for the third session of the Forum.

8. Provisional agenda for the third session of the Forum.

9. Adoption of the report of the Forum on its second session.

Annotations

1. Election of officers

Rule 15 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council provides that, at the commencement of the first meeting of a regular session, the United Nations Forum on Forests shall elect, from among the representatives of its members, a Chairperson and such other officers as may be required (see E/5975/Rev.1). According to Council resolution E/2000/35 of 18 October 2000 establishing the Forum, the Bureau will consist of a Chairperson and four Vice-Chairpersons, one of whom will also act as the Rapporteur, in accordance with the principle of equitable geographical distribution.

On 22 June 2001, the Forum elected Ositaadinma Anaedu (Nigeria), Ana Patricia Chaves (Costa Rica), Alexey Kornienko (Russian Federation) and Knut Øistad (Norway) as members of the Bureau for the second session of the Forum. It postponed to a later meeting the election of the Chairperson and one Vice-Chairperson from an Asian State, as well as the Rapporteur.

The Forum may wish to elect the nominated Chairperson, Knut Øistad (Norway), and the remaining Vice-Chairperson nominated from an Asian State, Hossein Moeini Meybodi (Islamic Republic of Iran), as well as the Rapporteur.

2. Adoption of the agenda and other organizational matters

In accordance with rule 7 of the rules of procedure of the functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, the United Nations Forum on Forests shall, at the beginning of the session, adopt the agenda for that session on the basis of the provisional agenda.

In its decision 2001/293 of 25 July 2001, the Economic and Social Council took note of the report of the Forum on its first session and approved the provisional agenda for its second session.

3. Implementation of the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests and the plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests

In accordance with the multi-year programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests (see report of the Forum on its first session (E/CN.18/2001/3/Rev.1, part two, chap. I, sect. B, resolution 1/1)), the second session will address progress in implementation of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests proposals for action and the plan of action of the Forum related to the following elements: (a) combating deforestation and forest degradation; (b) forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems; (c) rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover; (d) rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands and the promotion of natural and planted forests; and (e) concepts, terminology and definitions. In the context of these elements, the Forum decided at its first session to address means of implementation, including finance, transfer of environmentally sound technologies and capacity-building for sustainable forest management.

In the documentation listed below, the secretariat has, for each of the elements to be addressed at the second session of the Forum, integrated the consideration of common items such as country experience and lessons, emerging issues relevant to country implementation, promoting public participation and enabling environment.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on combating deforestation and forest degradation (E/CN.18/2002/__)

Report of the Secretary-General on forest conservation and protection of unique types of forests and fragile ecosystems (E/CN.18/2002/__)

Report of the Secretary-General on rehabilitation and conservation strategies for countries with low forest cover (E/CN.18/2002/__)

Report of the Secretary-General on rehabilitation and restoration of degraded lands and the promotion of natural and planted forests (E/CN.18/2002/__)

Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, assessment and reporting, including concepts, terminology and definitions (E/CN.18/2002/__)

4. Common items for each session

In accordance with the multi-year programme of work of the United Nations Forum on Forests, the Forum will address the following common items at each of its sessions: (a) multi-stakeholder dialogue; (b) enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination; (c) country experience and lessons; (d) emerging issues relevant to country implementation; (e) intersessional work; (f) monitoring, assessment and reporting; (g) promoting public participation; (h) national forest programmes; (i) trade; and (j) enabling environment.

The Forum may wish to consider some of the common items to be addressed, such as country experience and lessons, emerging issues relevant to country implementation, promoting public participation and enabling environment, in the context of elements identified for the second session of the Forum. However, as

regards the remaining common items, the Forum may wish to consider these as self-standing agenda items.

(a) Multi-stakeholder dialogue

The United Nations Forum on Forests noted the value of multi-stakeholder dialogues to advancing the purpose and objectives of the Forum, in particular implementation of sustainable forest management, at national, regional and global levels. It further decided that multi-stakeholder dialogues are to be held at each session, as of the second session. It has been suggested that the multi-stakeholder dialogue be focused on seeking multi-stakeholder perspectives on the agenda items under consideration by the second session of the Forum.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on the inputs from multi-stakeholders (E/CN.18/2002/__)

(b) Enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination

The United Nations Forum on Forests decided at its first session to develop and maintain contacts, and cooperate, as well as to make active efforts to develop synergies with the members of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, the Commission on Sustainable Development and other functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, as well as other relevant international and regional processes and organizations, institutions and instruments.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on enhanced cooperation and policy and programme coordination (E/CN.18/2002/__)

(c) Country experience and lessons

The United Nations Forum on Forests may wish to address this item in the context of the elements mentioned under agenda item 3.

(d) Emerging issues relevant to country implementation

The United Nations Forum on Forests may wish to address this item in the context of the elements mentioned under agenda item 3.

(e) Intersessional work

According to its multi-year programme of work, the United Nations Forum on Forests recommends the convening of three ad hoc expert groups to support the work of the Forum, which will address the following issues: (a) approaches and mechanisms for monitoring, assessment and reporting; (b) finance and transfer of environmentally sound technologies; (c) consideration with a view to recommending the parameters of a mandate for developing a legal framework on all types of forests. The Forum will decide on the specific titles, composition, terms of reference, scheduling and reporting of these ad hoc expert groups.

(f) Monitoring, assessment and reporting

The United Nations Forum on Forests may wish to address this item in the context of the elements mentioned under agenda item 3 and, in relation to intersessional work, under agenda item 4 (e).

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on monitoring, assessment and reporting, including concepts, terminology and definitions (E/CN.18/2002/__)

Report of the international expert meeting on monitoring, assessment and reporting on the progress towards sustainable forest management: a country-led initiative in support of the United Nations Forum on Forests, submitted to the Secretary-General by the Government of Japan (E/CN.18/2002/__)

(g) Promoting public participation

The United Nations Forum on Forests may wish to address this item in the context of the elements mentioned under agenda item 3.

(h) National forest programmes

In Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35, the Council decided that one of the principal functions of the international arrangement on forests would be to facilitate and promote the implementation of Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests proposals for action as well as other actions that might be agreed upon, inter alia, through national forest programmes and other integrated programmes relevant to forests. Furthermore, the plan of action of the United Nations Forum on Forests highlights the development and strengthening of national forest programmes, as one activity at the national level, with the aim of achieving a holistic and comprehensive approach to sustainable forest management.

The Forum may wish to review the current status of the development and implementation of national forest programmes and consider ways to further enhance the effectiveness of national forest programmes for sustainable forest management.

Documentation

Report of the Secretary-General on national forest programmes (E/CN.18/2002/__)

(i) Trade

The United Nations Forum on Forests may wish to review global trade and forest resource trends and the current status and assessment of developments concerning trade in forest products and services.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on trade and sustainable forest management (E/CN.18/2002/__)

(j) Enabling environment

The United Nations Forum on Forests may wish to address this item in the context of the elements mentioned under agenda item 3.

5. High-level ministerial segment

In Economic and Social Council resolution E/2000/35 establishing the United Nations Forum on Forests it was decided that the Forum would have a high-level ministerial segment for two to three days, as required.

According to the multi-year programme of work of the Forum, adopted by the Forum at its first session, the first high-level ministerial segment of the Forum will be held during its second session, in order to demonstrate political leadership and commitment and to provide guidance to the Forum. Furthermore, at the first session of the Forum, it was decided that an important focus of the first ministerial segment would be to endorse the plan of action, also adopted at the first session, and to consider transmitting it as one of the inputs of the Forum process to the World Summit on Sustainable Development through the Commission on Sustainable Development acting as the preparatory committee for the Summit. In addition, it was noted that the first ministerial segment would provide an opportunity for countries to declare their commitment to country goals and strategies for implementing the proposals for action of the Intergovernmental Panel on Forests/Intergovernmental Forum on Forests.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the main issues for consideration at the high-level ministerial segment

6. Ministerial dialogue with heads of member organizations of the Collaborative Partnership on Forests

Economic and Social Council resolution 2000/35 made provisions for a one-day policy dialogue with heads of organizations participating in the Collaborative Partnership on Forests, as well as other forest-related international and regional organizations, institutions and instruments.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the main issues for consideration at the high-level ministerial segment

7. Date and venue for the third session of the Forum

In its decision 2001/218, the Economic and Social Council decided that the first and fifth substantive sessions of the Forum would be held in New York, that two of the three intervening sessions would be held in Geneva and one in San José, Costa Rica, and that any ministerial segment to be convened during the intervening period would be convened during the session held in San José. Accordingly, Geneva is proposed to be the venue for the third session of the Forum.

8. **Provisional agenda for the third session of the Forum**

9. **Adoption of the report of the Forum on its second session**